THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) According to the report received from the Government of Gujarat, there is no discrimination against the workers from Madhya Pradesh in Surat and no complaints have been received regarding workers being forced to work for less than the prescribed minimum wages. It has further been reported that the interests of these workers are being taken care of by the State Government.

Child Employment

78. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a notification was issued by Government on the eve of Children's Day, namely, "no Government servant shall employ any child below the age of 14 years (Article 309)"; and

(b) if so, what kind of punishment is to be given to the violators?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievance & Pensions has issued an Office Memorandum dated 7th June, 1999 asking all the Government servants to ensure that no child below the age of 14 years is employed by them for domestic work. However, no notification has been issued in this regard.

ESIC Hospitals in Andhra Pradesh

79. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ESIC has approved the establishment of any new hospitals in 1999-2000;

(b) if so, the State-wise distribution of new ESIC hospitals sanctioned in 1999-2000;